

## Francis Preston Blair to Andrew Jackson, August 26, 1834, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### FRANCIS P. BLAIR TO JACKSON.

Washington, August 26, 1834.

*My Dear Genl.* , I have been besetting Mr. Woodbury, and so has Mr. Forsyth, to come out with his correspondence with Biddle about the sequestration or rather the robbery committed, in seizing upon the Govt. Dividends under pretence of indemnity for loss on the French Bill; and although Mr. W. is anxious that the publication should be made, yet he thinks there would be an indelicacy in him as a party to the correspondence, to bring it out himself. I suggested to him, that as you were the Representative of the Govt. as a stockholder, and appointed its guardians, (the Directors), that you, in this character might properly permit its publication, for the information of the nation, who were interested in this conversion of its property, the proceeds of its stock, to the use of the Bank. He agreed with me, that it would be entirely proper for you to give publicity to the transaction, if you inclined to do so.

Would it not be well, therefore, if you were to permit some Nashville paper to say, that the Correspondence had been forwarded to you by the Department, and that as the violation of the rights of the Government was of so flagrant a character it was deemed proper, that it should be immediately exposed and that the official Correspondence was therefore at once submitted to the nation? Your rule has always been *publicity* , and I have no doubt it is the safe rule with a chief magistrate, who relies on the support of the great body of the people, rather than corrupt politicians. . . .